

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DIWY-01 OIC-02 L-03 CU-04 ABF-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-08 NEA-10 SSO-00 /050 W

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SGEN, EAID, AORG

SUBJECT: PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN,  
NOVEMBER 8, 1977

REF: (A)DEPT A-4273, OCT 25, 1977 (B) USUN 4054 (C) USUN 3865

1. THE MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION FROM THE  
DEPT OF THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN A-4273 WHICH ASKS  
THE MISSION TO ANNOUNCE AT THE NOV 8 PLEDGING CONFERENCE  
THAT THE US WILL MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF \$3 MILLION TO  
THE UN VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN.

2. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT APPRO-  
PRIATED BY CONGRESS IS \$3 MILLION DOLLARS, THIS IN-  
DICATES THAT NO CONTRIBUTION WILL BE MADE TO THE INTER-  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING SINCE THE  
VOLUNTARY FUND AND THE INSTITUTE ARE TWO SEPARATE AND  
DISTINCT PROGRAMS AND REQUIRE SEPARATE PLEDGES.

3. IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE ANY CONFUSION WHICH MAY EXIST  
ON THIS ISSUE, THE DEPT SHOULD REFER TO RESOLUTION  
31/133 OF THE 31ST GA WHICH ESTABLISHED THE VOLUNTARY  
FUND FOR THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN AND WHICH LISTS THE  
CRITERIA FOR USES OF THE FUND. THE INTERNATIONAL  
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RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCE-  
MENT OF WOMEN WAS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION  
31/135 AND FINANCING IS THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBU-  
TIONS. IN ADDITION 31/137 CALLING FOR THE PLEDGING  
CONFERENCE STATES AS FOLLOWS: "REQUESTS THE SYG  
TO CONVENE DURING THE 32D SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY IN 1977, A PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR VOLUN-

TARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE MADE TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING PROGRAMS UNDER THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION AND THE PROGRAM OF THE DECADE, AND TO THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN." THE VOLUNTARY FUND AND THE INSTITUTE ARE NOT OPERATED FROM A SHARED FUND, THEREFORE, THE US PLEDGE MUST SPECIFY THE EXACT AMOUNT WHICH WE PLAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO EACH.

4. WHILE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE AMOUNT OF OUR PLEDGES BE CLARIFIED, WE DO NOT WISH TO ARGUE IN FAVOR OF A CONTRIBUTION TO THE INSTITUTE.

5. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT SINCE IT WAS FIRST PROPOSED BY IRAN IN 1975 AT THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE IN MEXICO, THE INSTITUTE HAS GAINED VERY LITTLE SUPPORT FROM POTENTIAL DONORS. THE EXISTENCE OF THE EFFECTIVE AND WELL-RUN UN INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (UNITAR), THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES BEING EXPERIENCED BY UN UNIVERSITY, AND THE TREND EVIDENCED BY THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE TO CONSOLIDATE RATHER THAN PROLIFERATE AND TO AVOID DUPLICATION, DEMONSTRATE THE PROBLEMS WHICH WILL BE ENCOUNTERED WITH THIS PROJECT, EVEN IF ENOUGH FUNDS (\$3 MILLION) ARE RAISED TO BEGIN  
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INITIAL WORK ON THE INSTITUTE, WHICH INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING ITSELF. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE ESCAP REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING ALREADY EXISTS IN TEHRAN, THE PROPOSED SITE OF THE INSTITUTE. AS OTHER POTENTIAL MAJOR DONORS HAVE STATED THEY WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE, IT IS NOW TIME TO RE-EVALUATE OUR POSITION OF SUPPORT AND AVOID WASTING SCARCE FUNDS IN A PROGRAM WHICH HAS SHOWN NO SIGNS OF VIABILITY. THE MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT A TOKEN CONTRIBUTION OF \$100,000 TO \$200,000 BE MADE TO THE INSTITUTE IN ORDER TO AVOID OFFENDING THE IRANIANS, WHO HAVE BEEN STRONGLY PUSHING THIS PROJECT SINCE THE BEGINNING, AND THAT THE MONEY BE PAID INTO THE FUND IN INSTALLMENTS IN PROPORTION TO OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS. THE IRANIAN PLEDGE OF \$1,000,000 WAS MADE IN 1975 BUT THE MONEY HAS NEVER BEEN PAID INTO THE FUND.

6. WE SHOULD ALSO MAKE PLANS TO DISCUSS THE INSTITUTE WITH THE IRANIANS AND MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS, SUCH AS A CONTRIBUTION TO UNITAR DESIGNATED FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON

WOMEN.

7. THE MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE AN URGENT REPLY  
AS AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAS BEEN INVITED BY PRINCESS  
ASHRAF FOR DINNER ON NOV 2 AND THE INSTITUTE UNDOUBTEDLY  
BE A MAIN TOPIC OF CONVERSATION.  
YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

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